



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 393

January Session, 2009

Substitute Senate Bill No. 445

Senate, April 1, 2009

The Committee on Transportation reported through SEN. DEFRONZO of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT REQUIRING AN ANALYSIS OF ISSUES RELATED TO ELECTRONIC TOLLS IN CONNECTICUT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Transportation
- 2 shall develop, within existing budgetary resources, an analysis
- 3 concerning the establishment of electronic tolls on Connecticut
- 4 highways at the state borders. Such analysis shall consider: (1) Toll
- 5 locations and collection methods that maximize revenue and increase
- 6 transportation system efficiency; (2) the short-term and long-term
- 7 impact of tolls on municipalities in close proximity to such tolls
- 8 resulting from traffic diversion to a parallel alternative route, including
- 9 traffic congestion, roadway safety, bicycle and pedestrian travel, air
- 10 pollution and noise; (3) federal constraints on the purposes for which
- 11 toll revenues may be expended that prevent the broad redistribution of
- 12 such revenue; (4) privacy issues related to the collection of personal
- 13 information in the implementation of electronic tolling and the
- 14 protection of data confidentiality; and (5) tax credits for Connecticut

15 residents and businesses that frequently leave and return to the state.
16 The Commissioner of Transportation shall submit a request to the
17 Attorney General for an opinion on legal impediments to the
18 establishment of tolls presented by the Commerce Clause of the United
19 States Constitution, or by federal or state law, and shall consult with
20 the Federal Highway Administration concerning changes in federal
21 law that would impact or prevent the implementation of electronic
22 tolls. The commissioner shall submit the results of such analysis to the
23 General Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
24 of the general statutes, not later than June 30, 2010. Such analysis shall
25 include (A) any impediments to the implementation of tolls identified
26 by the commissioner, (B) the necessary steps and available options to
27 address and, if possible, overcome such impediments, (C) a plan and
28 timetable recommended by the department for the removal of such
29 impediments, and (D) a plan and timetable for the establishment of
30 such electronic tolls upon the resolution of such impediments.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 10 \$
Department of Transportation	TF - Cost	Greater than \$500,000

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The cost to the Department of Transportation (DOT) in FY 10 to hire a consultant to analyze and produce a report on the reestablishment of tolls on Connecticut roads is estimated to be greater than \$500,000.

The requirement that the analysis and report be produced within available appropriations will likely result in one of four outcomes: (1) DOT will proceed with the analysis and report, and will require a deficiency appropriation during FY 10; (2) DOT will delay the implementation of the analysis and report pending the approval of additional appropriations to meet this mandate in future fiscal years; (3) DOT will shift administrative resources from other department priorities, thereby impacting existing departmental programs; or (4) DOT will not perform the analysis and publish the report.

The Out Years

There is no out year fiscal impact because the cost of the consultants is a one-time expenditure.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 445

***AN ACT REQUIRING AN ANALYSIS OF ISSUES RELATED TO
ELECTRONIC TOLLS IN CONNECTICUT.***

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 22 Nay 13 (03/13/2009)